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VOL. 4.

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No. 11.

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THE MINT AT PHILADELPHIA.

(*Continued.*)

We will now enter the Coining Room, a light, airy hall, filled with brightly polished machinery, kept as clean as the milk-pans in a New England dairy. A passage-way in the middle of the room is separated from the machines on both sides by a neat iron fence. The quantity of gold and silver lying about would make it unwise, especially in these times, to allow strangers to mingle among it. Visitors can see everything from this passage-way, but the pleasure of handling is denied.

There are two styles of coining presses, both working on the same principle, but some more compact and handsome than the others. They are the invention of Mr. Peale, the plan being taken from the French press of Thornnelier's. Peale's press works much more perfectly and rapidly, and is a vast improvement over the old-fashioned screw press still used in England. It seems to be as nearly perfect as anything can be. There is so little difference, save in form, that, essentially, they are the same. There are eight presses, all turned by a beautiful steam engine at the further end of the room. The power of the press is known as the "toggle" or, vulgarly, "knee" joint, moved by a lever worked by a crank. The arch is a solid piece of cast iron, weighing several tons, and unites with its beauty great strength. The table is also of iron, brightly polished and very heavy. In the interior of the arch is a nearly round plate of brass, called a triangle. It is fastened to a lever above by two steel bands, termed stirrups, and is connected with the triangle by a ball and socket joint, and it is this arm that forces down the triangle. The arm is connected with the end of the lever above by a joint somewhat like that of the knee. One end of the lever reaches behind the arch to a crank near the large fly-wheel. Now, when the triangle is raised, the arm and near end of the lever extend outward, as when one is resting his whole weight on one leg the other bends out at the knee. If the knee is drawn in and the leg straightened, the whole body will be slightly raised.

The press is on exactly the same principle. When the crank lifts the further end of the lever it draws in the knee and forces down the

arm until it is perfectly straight. By that time the crank has revolved and is lowering the lever, which forces out the knee again and raises the arm. As the triangle is fastened to the arm it has to follow all its movements. Thus we have got the motion, which is all-important.

(*To be continued.*)

#### THE PRECIOUS STONES, THEIR HISTORY AND VALUE.

*Including the Diamond, Sapphire, Ruby, Topaz, Emerald, Amethyst, Carnelian, Garnet, Onyx, Sardonyx, Heliotrope, Chrysolite, Hyacinth, Cat's Eye, Opal, Pearl and Turquoise.*

(Continued.)

The Topaz, according to Ure, is still another form of the silex or quartz. It is found crystallized in rhombic prisms in Brazil, Siberia and Saxony. It is transparent and translucent, and commonly of a wine-yellow color, but frequent sulphur colored, and rose-red. Sometimes it occurs perfectly limpid. It is not affected by the acids. It becomes electric from heat or friction, and to such a degree as to make it distinguishable, by this property, from other stones that may chance to resemble it. The principal supply of this gem is from Brazil, where it is sought in the rainy season, in the same manner and in the same localities as the Diamond.

The annual production from this region is about forty pounds. The white and the rose-red are most valuable. The former are called by the Portuguese *pingos d'agoa* (drops of water), and, when cut, they closely resemble the Diamond in lustre and brilliancy. The Brazilian yellow Topaz, when exposed to heat, becomes reddish, and bears a strong resemblance to the Ruby, but may be distinguished from it by the electricity it is capable of evolving. The Saxon pale-wine colored Topaz, when exposed to the heat, becomes colorless. It is said to have derived its name from an island in the Red Sea, where the first specimen was found by a Mauritanian king. The name however, *topazion*, has existed in the Greek language from time immemorial, but whether it was the name of the same mineral as our Topaz it cannot be with certainty affirmed.

Tavernier gives a view of a magnificent Topaz in the possession of the Great Mogul. It is beautifully cut, its girdle being a perfect octagon. "This," says he, "is the only gem I have seen him wear upon his person whenever I visited his court during my journey to the Indies. It weighs one hundred and fifty-seven and a quarter carats, and was bought for this monarch at Goa for 181,000 rupees (\$543,000)."

A Topaz valued at 10,000 roubles is among the jewels in one of the saddles of Catharine II, of Russia.

Albertus Magnus says that this stone is more beautiful in the morning than at any other time of the day. And is this not true of everything, animate or inanimate?

Cardanus says that with a simple powder of Topaz diffused in

wine, he cured one Cesar Palavicinus, Esq., of a fever that he had had for fifteen days, and another gentleman of melancholy, who had long been dosed in vain by prescriptions of the regular practitioners.

Thomas Nichols calls it "a very hard glorious sunshine gem."

He also says: "The powder of it is said to be good in asthmatick passions, and in the *orthopnæa* if it be drunk in a convenient liquor. If in fevers it be held under the tongue it is said to quench thirst. It is cold and dry as all other precious stones are."

(*To be continued.*)

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REMARKS ON MODEL DESIGNS OF TWO ROYAL SEALS FOR MARYLAND IN AMERICA, AND THE ISLAND OF JAMAICA, BY SIMON, IN THE REIGN OF CHARLES II. (ABOUT 1662-3).

PREPARED BY DR. CHARLES CLAY.

*A paper read by him before the Manchester (England) Numismatic Society, April, 1870.*

I have to offer to the notice of this Society the models of two beautiful seals, designed by the medalist Simon, so celebrated for his exquisite, I may say unapproachable, pieces (both coins and medals) of the Cromwellian period; respecting whom I will quote a few remarks from Pinkerton: "Simon continued in his employment at the mint after the Restoration, but his skill was less visible in the hammered money of the second Charles, and was chiefly shown in the seals and medals. After the use of milling was adopted in 1662, Simon found himself neglected by his royal master, who had brought over two Flemish artists (brothers), called Roettiers, with him, and employed them in the mint. Other authors declare it was a necessity to call in their aid, as the works of Simon progressed too slowly. Stung by being discarded from the mint, Simon, in the pride of emulation, produced that exquisite crown piece, commonly called by way of eminence, the *Trial Piece* or the *Petition Crown*, which will ever be the wonder of the world. The petition indicated his wish to be reinstated in the mint. From the relief implored of the king in the petition round the edge, it would seem that Simon's large family encumbered him much, for the salary was £50 a year and he had made considerable sums by his works, for which he was paid besides, so as to be the proprietor of one or two farms. This wonderful Petition Crown, however, had no effect upon Charles, whose taste and faculties were rather inclined to low pleasures; consequently, the Rottiers continued at the mint, to the great disappointment of Simon. Of him we hear but little after, except that he died in 1665 (only two years after his great work of the Petition Crown), some say of the plague; others say he returned to Yorkshire, the place of his birth, and died broken spirited. Supposing him to have been about twenty years of age when taken under the care of Briot, in 1633, he lived only to his fifty-second year—but a very short time to build up a reputation as being the first artist in his line the world had ever seen.

Some say his works would have been more perfect with a higher relief; but his inimitable frost work fully atones, by deepening the shades, and thus giving the effect of high relief. Perhaps, had he confided this frost work to the flesh parts, for which its softness eminently fits it, and given the hair and garments in another style, his works would, if it were possible, add to their present almost perfect character. The mad predilection at the time for foreign artists cannot be better demonstrated than by the history of Simon and Croker, both of whom were British born, and whose works have done honor to the British coinage, and both shamefully neglected whilst living, by their own countrymen."

(*To be continued.*)

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#### COUNTERFEIT ANCIENT COIN AND MEDALS, AND THE ART OF DISTINGUISHING THEM FROM THE TRUE.

(*Continued*)

##### MEDALS CAST IN THE MOULDS FROM THE ANTIQUE.

The same distinctions which serve in the former classes are likewise to be used in this. Beauvais informs us that skillful workmen in this way, when about to forge coins of gold or silver, are sometimes so careful that the quality of their metal shall not betray them, that they will melt a common medal of the very emperor whom they mean to counterfeit, in order to give it the new device of a rare one of the same prince. This had been done in the silver Septimius Severus, with the reverse of a triumphal arch, for which a common coin of the same prince has been melted; and in other instances.

(*To be continued.*)

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#### HISTORY OF THE COINS, TOKENS, MEDALS, ETC., OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

BY ALFRED SANDHAM.

(*Continued.*)

NOVA SCOTIA.

13. C. Obv.—Within a circle, a cask marked "Spikes, Nails, &c." "HALF PENNY TOKEN 1815." Rev.—"IMPORTERS OF IRON MONGERY HARDWARE &c." Within a circle in six lines, "PAYABLE | BY | MILES W. | WHITE | HALIFAX | N. S."

14. C. Obv.—Bust of George III to right, laureated and draped. "HALF PENNY TOKEN 1815." Rev.—Ship in full sail to right, in the distance to the left, another vessel. "HALIFAX." Edge milled. The bust on this coin is the same type as the English half penny of 1806.

15. C. Obv.—Bust of George IV to the left, laureated and draped. "PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA." Rev.—A two leaved thistle. "ONE PENNY TOKEN 1823." Engrailed edge.

16. C. Same as No. 15. Rev.—do., do., "HALF-PENNY TOKEN 1823." There are specimens of Nos. 15 & 16 bearing dates of 1824 and 1832.

17. C. Obv.—Bust of Victoria to right, filleted and the neck

bare. "PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA." Rev.—Two leaved thistle. "ONE PENNY TOKEN 1840." Engrailed edge.

18. C. Same as No. 17. Rev.—do., do., "HALF-PENNY TOKEN."

These coins (17 & 18) are very inferior in point of workmanship to those bearing the head of George IV. The penny and half penny of this type occur with the dates 1840, 1843 and 1856. Very fine specimens of Nos. 15 to 18 are sometimes met with, but no proofs are known to exist.

19. C. Obv.—Head of Victoria, to the left, wearing open coronet, of which only the front is seen, the neck bare. "VICTORIA D : G : BRITANNIAR : REG : F : D : 1856." Rev.—A large sprig of May-flower. "PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA ONE PENNY TOKEN." Plain edge.

20. C. Obv.—Same as No. 19. Rev.—do., do., "HALF PENNY."

21. C. Obv.—Ship in full sail to right. "NOVA SCOTIA AND NEW BRUNSWICK SUCCESS." Rev.—Female seated on a bale of goods, holding in her right hand a pair of scales, in her left a cornucopia. A vessel in the distance. "HALF-PENNY TOKEN." Milled edge. Rare.

22. C. Obv.—Ship in full sail. "PAYABLE AT THE STORE OF J. BROWN," Rev.—Four leaved thistle. "NEMO ME IMPUNE LACESSIT."

23. C. Obv.—"ROBERT PURVES, CHEAP FAMILY STORE, WALLACE." Rev.—"ENCOURAGE COUNTRY IMPORTERS."

#### NUMISMATIC NOMENCLATURE; OR, THE COIN COLLECTORS' LEXICON.

BY E. MASON, JR.

(Continued.)

*Tael.*—Chinese silver coin, worth \$1 40.

*Tampered with.*—Tooled, cut or altered.

*Tarnished.*—Discolored by handling or by contact with dyed cloth.

*Temin.*—Algiers coin, worth about 40 cents.

*Tempo.*—Japanese coin, worth about 2 cents.

*Testoon.*—Italian silver coin, worth about 30 cents, or Portuguese silver coin, worth 14 cents.

*Tetradrachma.*—Greek silver coin, worth about 78 cents.

*Thaler.*—German dollar, worth about 70 cents.

*Thirty-eight Head.*—United States cent of 1839 having the Liberty head of the 1838 cent.

*Tical.*—Siamese silver coin, worth about 60 cents.

*Token.*—Money, or substitute for same; not coined by authority.

*Toman.*—Persian gold coin, worth about \$2 25.

*Tonga.*—Bokhara silver coin, worth 15 cents.

*Trial Piece.*—A piece struck in any metal to try the quality of the dies before making the regular coinage.

*Triens.*—Roman copper coins,  $\frac{1}{6}$  of an ounce.

*Tsien.*—Chinese coin, worth  $\frac{1}{8}$  of a cent.

*Type.*—A peculiar mark or form differing materially from a piece of the same class.

(To be continued.)

## THE CASTORLAND HALF DOLLAR.

This medal, usually termed half dollar, has been recently beautifully described, in verse, by our old friend and fellow laborer (in the Washington relic hunting line), Caleb Lyon, of Lyonsdale, New York, formerly a member of Congress. Before transferring the verses from the *American Journal of Numismatics*, of Boston, we would add that Mr. Lyon was instrumental in restoring the head quarters of Washington, at Newburg, to its original condition, making that locality an interesting and attractive spot to Americans. Mr. Lyon and the writer were engaged during the war in restoring to the United States Government the Washington relics stolen from the Arlington House, after the flight of General Lee to join fortunes with the Confederates. The verses referred to are entitled:

## THE OLDEN TIME OF LEWIS COUNTY, NEW YORK.

BY CALEB LYON, OF LYONSDALE.

In the land of vines and olives, over three score years ago,  
Where the Bourbon Rulers perished in unutterable wo,  
Plans matured for emigration sanctioned were with revel gay,  
In saloons of *la belle Paris*, by the friends of Chassenais.

On a hundred thousand acres, never trod by feet of men,  
He had mapped out farms and vineyards, roads o'er preeipice and glen,  
And, like scenes of an enchanter, rose a city wondrous fair,  
With its colleges and churehes, and its castles in the air.

Then was struck a classie medal by this visionary band :  
Cybele was on the silver, and beneath was "Castorland,"  
The reverse a tree of maple, yielding forth its preeious store,  
*Salve magna parens frugum* was the legend that it bore.

O'er the Atlantie, up the Hudson, up the Mohawk's dreary wild,  
With his flock came Bishop Julien, ever gentle as a child :  
His kind words dispelled their sorrows and their trials by the way,  
As the darkness of the morning fades before the god of day.

By *la Riviere de la Famine*, ocean-tired and travel-sore—  
They upreared a rustie altar, tapestryed with mosses o'er ;  
Crueifix they set upon it where the oak tree's shadow fell  
Lightly o'er the lighted tapers, 'mid the sweet *Te Deum*'s swell.

Never *Dominus Vobiscum*, falling upon human ears,  
Made so many heart-strings quiver, fill'd so many eyes with tears.  
The Good Shepherd gave his blessing—even red men gathered there,  
Felt the saerifice of Jesus in his first thanksgiving prayer.

After toils and many troubles, self-exile for many years,  
Long delays and sad misfortunes, men's regrets and women's tears,  
Unfulfilled the brilliant outset, broken as a chain of sand,  
Were the golden expectations by *Grande Rapides*' promised land.

Few among this generation little eared how lived or died  
Those who fled from Revolution, spirit true and spirits tried ;  
Or of loves and lives all ended, orbs of hope forever set—  
These the poet and the painter eannot let the world forget.

## A RARE COIN.



The above illustration is taken from a silver coin in the possession of a young man in the city of New York, and was handed down by his grandfather as a family relic. A similar coin was described in Dickeson's Numismatic Manual, and was sold in the Mickley sale for \$32; also the 1000 piece for double the size for \$70. The figures represent 500 millesimos Spanish money, and it was the first pattern for a half dollar of Colonial (?) money. This coin is the only one known of this variety, and has never before been described. It is in fine condition, size 15½ American scale, with engrailed edge; but owing to a slight flaw has not a good ring. The one from the Mickley collection was size 17. and had "CONFEDERATIO" with a mint mark on the obverse.—*Curiosity Cabinet.*

## GREEK AND ROMAN COINS.

"A series of an emperor's coins is his life digested into annals." *Addison.*

COMPILED BY E. M., JR.

## GREEK CIVIC COINS.

*Coins of Aegina—Various Denominations of Greek Silver Coins—Copper Coins, with their Divisions—Gold Coins of Sicily of an Early Date—Small Gold Coins of Cyrene—Gold Coins of various Cities in Greece—List of Coins of Cities using Greek Characters.*

## EUROPE.

(Continued.)

## CARYSTUS (EUBŒA.)

KΑ, ornamented head of a bull.

Reverse.—Head of Hercules with the lion's skin.

## ERETRIA.

Head of a female.

Reverse.—EPEIPEΩN, a bull couchant.

Some have the counter mark of the letter K on their obverse.

## HISTIAEA.

Head of a female crowned with ivy, to the right, with *earrings* and a collar of pearls.

Reverse.—ΙΣΤΙΑΙΕΩΝ, a female sitting on the prow of a vessel, holding with her left hand to the mast to which a sail is attached, filled by the wind.—AR.

Some have the fore part of a bull, and some a bunch of grapes.

## CEOΣ INSULA.

Male head with a diadem.

Reverse.—Fore part of a dog, to the left.—Æ.

## ENGLISH SILVER COINS, FROM THE NORMAN CONQUEST.

ARRANGED BY E. M., JR.

[Selected from Ackerman's Numismatic Manual, now out of print.]  
(Continued.)

EDWARD VI, 1547.

First Coinage.—Obverse.—The money of the first coinage of this king is of same baseness as that of the last coinage of his father. The head is in profile, looking to the left. The testoon has the legend TIMOR DOMINI FONS VITE. MDXLIX., the first time that a date appears on an English coin. This legend appears both on the reverse and obverse of the testoons; some have INIMICOS EIUS INDVAM CONFUSIONE., without the date, and the name and style on the reverse. The penny has a rose, and the legend E. D. G. ROSA SINE SPINA. The half penny has also a rose, but the farthing a portcullis.

Reverse.—The reverse of the testoon has the arms of England in an oval shield, the letters E. R. on either side, with the legend before mentioned; but some have POSVI, etc. The penny has the cross and shield.

Rarity.—The base penny, the half groat and groat are very rare, as are also the testoons of his first year, and those with the counter-marks of a greyhound and a portcullis, or harrow.

Last Coinage.—Obverse.—The crown and half crown have the king on horseback, armed and crowned, with a sword in his right hand. The shilling, and half and quarter shilling have a bust of the king, full-faced and crowned, a rose on the left side of the head, and the value, in numerals, on the right. The penny has the king sitting in a chair of state. These are all good silver. The half penny and farthing, although mentioned in the indentures, have never been found.

Reverse.—The arms of England on the cross, as before, and POSVI, etc., or names of towns.

Rarity.—All the fine or good money of this king is common, except the penny, which is very rare.

## OUR NUMISMATIC COTEMPORARIES.

The October number of the Boston *American Journal of Numismatics* is on our table, prompt to date of issue, and is a vast improvement on the former issue, as far as regards variety and attractiveness to the general reader. Allowances should be made in favor of the New York publication in comparing the Boston journal to its predecessor; for the extra number of pages and extra time that elapses before publication day gives the *Quarterly* a vast advantage over the old monthly, and with this fact in view there is still room for improvement and time to accomplish it. There is spice and considerable vivacity in the triumvirate that publish the *Quarterly*, and we again recommend this journal as worthy the support of the numismatic fraternity.

Brown's *Curiosity Cabinet*, No. 2, is at hand, containing on first page another specimen of splintered English, saturated with marks of emphasis done diagonally and sprinkled plentifully with *b*'s and *d*'s printed backwards. We are at a loss to know how printers can maintain patience while setting such *incongruous* composition. We should as soon undertake to write Elliot's Indian lingo, mixed with Chinese and Arabic, as to compose one sentence of Brown's essence of incongruity. On the fourth page of this little quarto appears an illustration of a *unique* United States pattern piece, which also appears in the present number of our journal, and for which we are indebted to the publisher of the *Curiosity Cabinet*. We would enquire of our cotemporary whether, or not, he has erred in terming this piece "Colonial money." We regard it as a pattern for a United States half dollar, as the Revolutionary war had terminated in 1783, and several United States coins were issued bearing the date of that year, leading us to form the above conclusion.

*Proceedings of the Manchester Numismatic Society.*—A pamphlet of 44 pages, bearing the above title, has been received by us from that able and indefatigable numismatist, Dr. Charles Clay, of Manchester, England. This interesting work is copiously illustrated, and contains many interesting articles, one of which is of great interest to Americans, in reference to the newly discovered designs for two royal seals for Maryland. We have quoted the latter article, and hope to be able to present the illustrations in our next issue. We shall have frequent occasion to allude to Parts IX and X of the Manchester Society's reports, and beg to offer our thanks for Dr. Clay's kindness in forwarding the same.

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#### OBITUARY.

We are under the painful necessity of announcing the death of one of our most highly respected and beloved numismatists, Ex-Gov. William F. Packer, whose decease occurred at Williamsport, Pa. on the 27th of September, from dropsy and disease of the heart, in the sixty-fourth year of his age. The life and distinguished services of William F. Packer are too well known to require more at our hands than the assertion that he lived a life of probity and died beloved and lamented by all who held personal or other relations with him. As a numismatist, he won the respect and esteem of collectors on both sides of the Atlantic; his urbane and gentlemanly address pleased and captivated every one with whom he came in contact. The last communication we received from the deceased was published in the January number of our Magazine, and exhibited a proud satisfaction at the result of his labors in the numismatic line. It seems scarcely creditable that we shall see the large noble manly form of William F. Packer no more; but the memory of his deeds will live with us and remain green in the hearts of his countrymen; adorning the pages of his native State and adding lustre to the history of the great men of America.

## FOUR DAYS' COIN SALE.

The result of the public sale of the Fewsmith cabinet of coins and medals, in New York, last month, was satisfactory to owners and purchasers; if we except the pattern pieces, which were slaughtered in cold blood! *Purchasers*, no doubt, were pleased at the latter result; but, as *owners*, we protest earnestly against the *cause* which produced this *effect*. Pattern pieces coming from a private collection formed by nearly a lifetime of anxious care, should not be classed (as they were in the case of this coin sale), with pieces *said to be* recently struck, surreptitiously, at the United States mint. "Down with the patterns," has been the numismatic war-cry with those who fortunately disposed of all such pieces previous to taking up arms against them. We assert, that the day will come when pattern pieces will command fabulous prices; already they have touched bottom in regard to price and rebounded at least twenty-five per cent. higher than prices realised at the last public sale. Here, in Philadelphia, we know the truth in regard to pattern pieces; we know that the dies of all such pieces are destroyed up to 1869; and we know further that nearly all the patterns thrown upon the market have come from the collections disposed of by auction and otherwise; including the cabinets of Randall, Haseltine, Thatcher, Hodge and Fewsmith. The supply will one day fall short of the demand, and lucky is he, who, disregarding the false reports of large quantities of pattern pieces in circulation for a market, has quietly snapped up the bargains recently offered by public sales and "salted" them for future speculative purposes.

## THE SALE OF THE FEWSMITH CABINET.

The rooms of Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., Astor Place, New York, presented a scene of unusual interest during the week announced for the public sale of this collection. On each day, from October 4 to 7, coin collectors and strangers entered the auction rooms and gazed with evident interest and surprise upon the coins displayed upon the long tables used by the auctioneers for this purpose. How often the attendants were compelled to snub the uninitiated who handled coins as they would a wheelbarrow, dumping them down as a hodcarrier would bricks, it is needless to enumerate; but often, too often, would scenes like the following occur:

*Attendant*.—My dear sir, don't put your thumb and fingers on the surface of those proof coins; you will ruin them; every fingermark is left to stain, tarnish and injure the pieces."

*Stranger*.—(Staring at attendant as if he had just escaped from a lunatic asylum.)—"I won't hurt your old coins; they're on sale, ain't they."

*Attendant*.—"Yes, sir, but you should take them by the edge, this way (illustrating), between the forefinger and thumb."

*Stranger*.—(Holding up the beautiful Gobrecht dollar of 1836.)—"I want this dollar and s'pose I have a right to examine it."

*Attendant.*—“That dollar, sir, is worth about one hundred dollars, but, if you continue to handle it, the value will be lessened considerably.”

The stranger indulged in a long low whistle of astonishment, and dropped the piece as he would a red hot coal, disappearing among the crowd. Other incidents equally annoying and amusing occurred during the sale; but our limits compel us to confine the balance of this article to prices obtained for some of the most interesting pieces in the sale.

200½, 1794 dollar, . . .	\$25 00	922, 1825 cent, . . .	\$10 00
241, 1851 dollar, . . .	27 50	1063, 1796 half cent, . . .	16 00
242, 1852 dollar, . . .	25 00	1098, 1831 half cent, . . .	13 00
250, 1858 dollar, . . .	10 00	1111, 1836 half cent, . . .	13 00
288, 1796 half dollar, . .	38 50	1112, 1840 half cent, . . .	15 00
467, 1815 quarter dollar, . .	8 50	1113, 1841 half cent, . . .	15 00
474, 1823 quarter dollar, . .	38 00	1114, 1842 half cent, . . .	42 50
536, 1796 dime, . . .	10 00	1115, 1843 half cent, . . .	15 00
626, 1794 half dime, . . .	7 50	1116, 1844 half cent, . . .	15 00
628, 1796 half dime, . . .	4 13	1117, 1845 half cent, . . .	15 00
802, 1795 cent, . . .	29 00	1118, 1846 half cent, . . .	15 00
808, 1796 cent, . . .	25 00	1119, 1847 half cent, . . .	35 00
822, 1799 cent, . . .	32 50	1139, 1792 disme, . . .	30 00
823, 1799 cent, . . .	17 00	1140, 1792 cent, . . .	41 00
824, 1800 cent, . . .	28 00	1165, 1838 dollar, . . .	40 00
840, 1804 cent, . . .	21 50	1169, 1839 dollar, . . .	28 00
841, 1804 cent, . . .	8 00	1171, 1839 half dollar, . . .	21 00
842, 1804 cent, . . .	15 00	1381, set aluminum, . . .	102 50
845, 1806 cent, . . .	14 00	1559, <i>unique</i> Wash. cent,	60 00
911, 1821 cent, . . .	8 00		

The whole sale realized about five thousand dollars. Store or business cards brought extravagant prices, showing a decided interest and increased value for these hitherto neglected pieces. We noticed several buyers from Massachusetts, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and names called representing nearly every State in the Union.

#### MINT DROPS.

##### ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

 The “Packer Cabinet” of coins and medals will soon be offered at public sale, in New York. It is a large and fine collection, including many rare and valuable coins. We speak by the card; the late lamented Ex-Governor Packer having been a patron of our little coin depot on North Second street, in 1860, and at that time and place obtained a number of fine coins among them a series of the rare half cents, in brilliant proof condition.

 Two of our subscribers, viz.: Fred. Morrison and Fred. Smith, carried off a “special premium” at the great Union fair, held at Grand Rapids, Michigan, in September, for a collection of coins, medals and currency.

 The new French coin has made its appearance. It consists of a figure of Liberty, with the legend, "In the name of the French people;" and on the reverse, a garland of mixed oak and olive, with a wheat ear in the centre, and the inscription, "Republique Francaise Democratique, une et indivisible;" and around the periphery are the words, "Liberte, Egalite, Fraternite."

 A "naked bust" Washington cent of 1792 has recently appeared in the Philadelphia market, genuine, and valued at three hundred and fifty dollars.

 Ex-Governor Caleb Lyon obtained the silver Castorland medal in the New York sale of October 4.

 The Four Days' Coin Sale, in New York, October 4 to 7, was a success.

 S. S. Crosby, of Boston, is preparing a work on Colonial coinage.

 "Old coins are the autographs of the ancients."—*L. F. Cist.*

 In press.—History of American Coins, by E. M., JR.

 Genuine "Liberty cap."—Night cap!

#### COMPLIMENTS.

We return thanks to our numerous patrons for complimentary allusions to the catalogue of the Fewsmith cabinet. Few know the labor and anxiety connected with the work of cataloguing a large coin collection; and it is a cheering consolation to receive compliments from fellow laborers in the good cause, such as the following, from W. S. Lincoln & Son, London, whose labors in cataloguing are well known and appreciated by numismatists the world over:

"Many thanks for the sale catalogue; well arranged and thoroughly well got up." W. S. LINCOLN & SON.

"London, September 23, 1870."

#### REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. B. T., WATKINS.—Money received for purchases at New York coin sale. Price List mailed you. The catalogues of Fewsmith Cabinet not to be had for less than \$5.

A. A. W., CLEVELAND.—Sent you our new Price List, and should be pleased to hear from you.

W. N., CALCUTTA.—Send you balance of new issues United States; also a few more coins. Thanks for compliments via our mutual friend, W. H. N.

H. G. L., HYDE PARK.—Sent the Pine Tree and New England coins on approval.

B. Q., RONDOUT—Sent package by express on 21st ult.

O. T., BALTIMORE.—Sent you the Fewsmith Catalogue, as requested.

Gov. LYON, ROSSVILLE.—Did you receive the Silver Castorland Medal? Answer and oblige.

A. S., MONTREAL—Waiting patiently for the promised book.

A. W. F.—Make an order from Price List, or we will make up package, if you prefer.

J. S. K., MIDDLETOWN.—Yours received. Was too busy to arrange the reportorial affair.

J. B. C., PROVIDENCE—Cannot commence your subscription earlier than March. If it is possible to obtain January and February numbers, will forward them.

FRANK WAY, KENNETT SQUARE.—Subscription received, with thanks.

WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, CLEVELAND.—Shall send all catalogues as requested by Secretary.

L. S., JR., BOSTON—The Virginia Cent, or Half Penny of 1773, *has not* the arms of Virginia on reverse; neither has it the arms of "England and Scotland," as you assert. The crowned shield on reverse is quartered by the arms of England, Ireland, France and Hanover. The story you relate is all a myth.

## Philatelic Department.

E. MASON, JR., EDITOR.

### NEW ISSUES.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The adhesive alluded to, but underscribed in the last number, answers to its description given in July—being transverse oblong, small-sized, bearing her Majesty's profile within a central oval; value, " $\frac{1}{2}$ d.," on either side. It is dull pink. Further notice is superfluous, because, in all probability ere these pages see the light, the new and welcome comer's appearance will be familiar throughout the length and breadth of the land. On the date of the publication of this number, will be issued a new adhesive of the value of three half-pence. Having been favored by an early inspection of some thousands of this stamp, we are able to give our readers a description thereof. Rectangular, diademed head of Queen to left, in a curvilinear triangle, inscribed POSTAGE on the left, THREE above, and HALF-PENCE on the right; interlacements at sides, and letters in corners, as in the current penny and two-penny stamps. Color, a kind of lake. This stamp was engraved ten years ago, and thousands printed off; but, owing to the rejection, at the last moment, of the bill sanctioning their use, the whole of the stock was destroyed.

FRANCE—We understand the five centimes of the empire, with laurelled head, has been printed off for some time, though not for issue until the exhaustion of the undescribed stamp of similar value. It will be a mooted question between the broad school and the purists, whether these "remainders" should be admitted into albums. There are arguments *pro* and *con*. Uniformity and official authority, on the one hand, virtual non-existence on the other, two to one in its favor.

**ALSACE AND LORRAINE.**—An absurd notice, which we read in several French journals, found its way into this magazine last month, being copied from *The Echo*, to the effect that, in Alsace and Lorraine, the imperial stamps are already replaced by the Prussian eagle; translator and reporter being equally in sublime ignorance that for more than two years the eagle has ceased to distinguish the Germano-Prussian adhesives and envelopes. Crude and facially uninteresting as the stamps are, they will ever remain "paper medals" of the marvellous postal revolution signalizing (for a time, we trust) the most unnecessary and disastrous of wars. The set consists of five; the type being precisely alike, value of course excepted. They are rectangular, and printed in color, upon plain white unwatermarked paper, patterned with network so peculiar as to be almost undescribable. It is formed by pairs of parallel curves crossing each other, rounded when descending, and almost peaked when ascending. The word POSTES shows above; the denominational value below; numeral in the centre.

1 centime, green.	4 centimes, grey.
2     " red-brown.	10     " orange.
20 centimes, blue.	

In any case they will be eventually exceedingly rare. Should the provinces remain under Prussian domination, they will, of course, be superseded by the issue of that authority: should the French succeed in rescuing them from the enemy's clutches, we presume the most philatelic timbromaniac in France would willingly set fire to the whole stock.

**BOLIVIA.**—Our Bath contemporary exposes the falsification of certain 5 centavos stamps of this republic, formed by steeping some green of that value in acid, to give them a deep indigo-blue color.

**TRINIDAD.**—From the same source we borrow the notice that the 4d. c. c. and crown watermark current issue of this island is now of a beautiful blue violet color.

**NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION.**—A field post envelope has been issued for the use of the Prussian army. Its size is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches by  $4\frac{1}{2}$ , printed on tinted paper; FELDPOSTBRIEF above, and a circle in the right hand upper corner. Lines are left for inserting the army corps, division, number of regiment, company, squadron and battery; and for the name of the addressee. The usual instructions on the back, and a place for the sender's name. We believe something similar was in use for the French army.

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.**—A new stamp for this island bears her Majesty's portrait in an oval, nearly surrounded by the inscription PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND POSTAGE. Within scroll ornaments below, reads the monetary value, 3D. STG. (sterling), CY. (currency)  $4\frac{1}{2}$ D. The stamp is brown on white unwatermarked paper.

**BELGIUM.**—When expectation was almost tired out, arrived the long promised chiffre-taxe adhesives of this kingdom. They are very neatly and artistically designed and executed. The two values

are identical in every possible respect. Central numerals within broad oval frame inscribed A PERCEVOIR and CENTIMES in block capitals. Belgium crown above, national motto beneath. Impressed in color, on plain white unwatermarked paper.

10 centimes, green,                    20 centimes, blue.

**SPAIN.**—Attention is also called to the 1, 2, and 4 milesimas and 12 cuartos of the present set and of 1860, and 2 reales of 1856, are found surcharged with "Y $\frac{1}{4}$ " in dark blue ink.—*Philatelist.*

#### UNITED STATES POSTAL CARD.

On the 1st ult., the British Post Office inaugurated a new and most important addition to the manifold facilities which the people enjoy for correspondence; we allude to the half-penny post cards. The United States Post Office Department now proposes to adopt this British idea, and to give our people the advantages connected with it. This new postal is the exact size of the English card, and about the proportions of a medium envelope. The material is a fine laid card paper, flexible and strong. It presents only the name and address side; the reverse is entirely blank, and ready to receive any one of those multitudinous messages which require no secrecy nor concealment. The price will be one dollar per hundred, and it is expected they will be used by the million. They will save envelopes, note paper, folding, stamping and all the other trouble attending the writing of short letters.

#### REVENUE STAMPS.

The revenue stamps of the United States are divided into five classes.

**CLASS I** consists of adhesive, general and proprietary, viz.:

*General.*—One cent, two cents, three cents, four cents, five cents, six cents, ten cents, fifteen cents, twenty cents, twenty-five cents, thirty cents, forty cents, fifty cents, sixty cents, seventy cents, one dollar, one dollar and thirty cents, one dollar and fifty cents, one dollar and sixty cents, one dollar and ninety cents, two dollars, two dollars and fifty cents, three dollars, three dollars and fifty cents, five dollars, ten dollars, twenty dollars, twenty-five dollars, fifty dollars and two hundred dollars. Total, thirty stamps.

*Proprietary.*—One cent, two cents, three cents, four cents and five cents. Total, five stamps.

**CLASS II.**—Beer stamps: hogsheads, barrels, half barrels, third barrels, quarter barrels, sixth barrels and eighth barrels. Total, seven stamps.

**CLASS III.**—Stamps for distilled spirits, tax paid, ten gallons, twenty gallons, thirty gallons, forty gallons, fifty gallons, sixty gallons, seventy gallons, eighty gallons, ninety gallons, one hundred gallons, one hundred and ten gallons, one hundred and twenty gallons and one hundred and thirty gallons. Total, thirteen stamps.

**CLASS IV.**—Stamps for distilled spirits, "other than tax-paid,"

distillery warehouse, rectified spirits and wholesale liquor dealers. Total, four stamps.

CLASS V.—Tobacco stamps: one half pound, one pound, two pounds, three pounds, five pounds, ten pounds, fifteen pounds, twenty pounds, twenty-one pounds, twenty-two pounds, forty pounds and sixty pounds. Total, twelve stamps.

A number of new issues, of many of the values above enumerated, will appear early in 1871, with entirely different designs from their predecessors. Thus it will be seen by the official list, prepared by C. Delano, Commissioner of Internal Revenue, that seventy-one stamps will comprise the United States Government issues of the Revenue Department for at least three years to come.

#### THE NEW REVENUES.

A complete set of revenue stamps has been prepared for the United States Government; also, a complete set of envelopes; the latter with the addition of martial emblems, as alluded to in our previous issues. It is questionable whether the envelopes will be issued for some time to come; not, however, until a fair experiment is made with the issue of which the lower values have appeared.

#### FRENCH STAMP ALBUM.

The French philatelists are apt to criticise and condemn American stamp albums with the full conceit that French albums are the *correct thing* for collectors; yet we find that the famous Lallier's French album for 1870 is open to severe and just complaints for many errors and omissions. We notice in Lallier's ninth edition, 1870, that Nova Scotia is left out in the cold, there being no place for the 1 cent, 2 cent and 5 cent stamps, head of Victoria to the left; and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  cent, 10 cent and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cent stamps. At some future time we shall review this album in detail.

#### PRICED CATALOGUE OF NEW YORK POSTAGE STAMP SALE.

MAY 28, 1870.

(Continued.)

A very scarce proof of the 1869, U. S. 30 cent stamp, color, green and orange. \$2 25.

Essay of \$200 U. S. revenue stamp. \$1 12.

5 Essays of different U. S. revenue stamps. \$1 50.

2 Essays U. S. 15 cent envelope stamps. \$2 00.

6 postage stamp Albums to contain 5000 each. 50 cents.

6 small monogram Albums, to contain 100 each. 25 cents.

6 monogram Albums, to contain 250 each. 50 cents.

1 Van Rinsum stamp Album, printed in four languages. \$7 00.

1 Van Rinsum stamp Album, gilt, cloth, printed in four languages. \$3 12.

(To be continued.)



### COIN CHART.

Four page Coin Chart, containing dates, condition, when coined, etc., of United States Coins from 1793 to 1870, inclusive; being a printed form for convenience of coin collectors. Just issued, 15 cents.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

### CALIFORNIA GOLD COINS.

Gold Dollar, octagon,	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$1	75.
Gold Half Dollar, octagon,	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	00.
Gold Quarter Dollar, octagon,	.	.	.	.	.	.		50.
Gold Half Dollar, round,	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	00.
Gold Quarter Dollar, round,	.	.	.	.	.	.		50.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

### GREEK AND ROMAN COINS.

We have a supply of Greek Silver Coins from \$1 to \$2 each, including a number of the Cæsars.

Roman Silver Coins, in fine condition, from 50 cents to 75 cents each.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

### FOREIGN COINS.

100 Common Coins, all different,	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$2	00.
100 Common Coins, in good condition,	.	.	.	.	.	.		3 00.
100 Selected Coins, in fine condition,	.	.	.	.	.	.		5 00.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

### UNITED STATES PROOF SETS.

Silver Proof Sets, one dollar to one cent, 1859,	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$5	50.
Silver Proof Sets, one dollar to one cent, 1860,	.	.	.	.	.	.	5	50.
Silver Proof Sets, one dollar to one cent, 1861 to 1869, each,	.	.	.	.	.	.	5	00.
Silver Proof Sets, one dollar to one cent, 1870,	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	50.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

### PRICED CATALOGUES OF FEWSMITH CABINET.

Owing to the scarcity of the catalogues of the New York sale of October 4, 5, 6 and 7, our terms are as follows:

Priced Catalogue,	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$5	00.
Unpriced Catalogue,	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	00.

Parties mailing their catalogues can have them priced for \$2.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

### HAND BOOK FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

This little book of 20 pages is mailed to any address for 25 cents.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.

 Coin Price Current, now ready, containing a list of coins on sale, with price of each.

MASON & CO., No. 139 North Ninth Street, Philada.